Unproven Methods of Cancer Treatment

The following statement on Laetrile, proposed for the treatment of cancer by the John Beard Memorial Foundation, Howard H. Beard, Ph.D., and the McNaughton Foundation was recently distributed to the 59 Divisions of the American Cancer Society for their information.

Laetrile

According to Ernst T. Krebs, Sr., M.D. (one of the founders of the John Beard Memorial Foundation, San Francisco, California) Laetrile was first used by him in the treatment of far advanced cancer patients shortly after 1920 when "substantial results" were obtained from the use of a beta-cyanogenetic glucoside named amygdalin, derived from apricot kernels. This, however, was reported to be too toxic for

jected by the clinician." He also states that it "should be given daily or every other day in doses of two mg. per pound of body weight. Dairy products, eggs and all sulfur-bearing foods must be avoided. Milk inactivates chymotrypsin. A strictly vegetable and fruit diet with vitamins is the ideal diet for the cancer patient . . ."

The fundamental biological rationale for Laetrile, according to proponents